

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 06:26:41 1995
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 00:08:44 -0800 (PST)
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: 30 meters
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502150029.A12115-0100000@netcom6>

Hooray for a 30-M fox hunt AND ANY OTHER MASS ACTIVITY! The so-called gentlemen's agreement to keep the WARC bands free of contests are just fine for weekends when there are contests on the other bands. But I don't think a 30-M QSO party or 30-M QRP group ''outing'' is unreasonable on a weekend when there is no CQWW, no ARRL DX, no WPX, no All-Asian, etc. 30-M is THE PERFECT BAND for a QRP group activity because QRO is limited to 200W, because there aren't too many 'big guns' with Yagis, and because 30-M has little activity, while offering some good skip properties and is open til after 20-M shutdown for the evening.

If the idea of a 30-M contest bothers anyone, let's get it another name. The object is to get lotsa of QRP-er's on the band, AND for the ones on the band to work as many others on the band as possible.

Need a non-competitive name: call it 30-something! (It was a successful title in its last outing).

72 de alan, w6rc1

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 05:16:58 1995
Date: Tue, 14 Feb 1995 23:50:20 -0500 (EST)
From: Jim Stafford-W4QO <w4qo@america.net>
Subject: Re: ARCI/Internet
Message-Id: <Pine.SV4.3.91.950214231740.8986F-100000@atl11.america.net>

I agree about boosting ARCI. I think ARCI could be made a lot more robust by using internet to submit articles and generate interest, etc. And the International in ARCI fits with Internet perfectly. Why not have a true international bent with news/views from our overseas correspondents?

I know a bunch of the folks on the board and on the editorial staff are on Inet already, and maybe others could be outfitted with Inet access, i.e. help them along if they want it. It is not as easy as some of us think to get access in Bean Blossom, Indiana.

I know there was a nice piece on Inet in the last issue of the Quarterly <which I can't put my hands on right now>, and I believe NN1G is still the Tech Editor so could have an Ask Dave column, just one idea. Mike,

WA8MCQ, is starting to pick stuff up off this reflector and putting it in his column. Richard Fisher KI6SN does a nice job on Member News but I don't think he is on Inet. Probably would have tons more if he could get a connection.

We should always have a view toward "new blood" especially younger hams. Helping a new ham build a neophyte and having them turn it on and hear something, is like no other experience. They go bonkers. I know. I have done it! A nice club project might be the TenTec \$16 rx and how to make it better<e.g. add an LED S meter>, how to make it a code practice oscillator, how to make it a transceiver, how to make it a signal generator, how to make it an Alpha<strike that>! We have been known for taking something very simple in concept and morphing it to death here, so why not a DC receiver that is readily available? We could get a group discount<oh no, we might put them out of business, too! <in fact they already have, 5 for \$70 or something>> Similarly, the "pen rig" could be a whole series, perhaps, there was a bunch on that recently.

Most of my comments are directed toward the newsletter, which I think is already pretty good and getting better.

And perhaps we could have an IRC chat about it some night, live. There is an RTTY contingent on almost all the time at least around 9 PM to midnight<#rtty>. How about #qrp? See you there.

My \$.02 worth <QRP-ARCI #6515>

73.72 Jim, W4QO

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 23:13:11 1995
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 08:04:35 -0800 (PST)
From: Jeff Jones <jeffj@crl.com>
Subject: Re: Call sign servers
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950215080251.26454B-100000@crl6.crl.com>

> Bob Smith <0005512847@mcimail.com> writes:
>
> | Anyone know of any active and up to date call sign servers??
> |
> | Thanks in advance.
> |

You could also try the my WWW page. I have a pointer to the QRZ WWW page and amateur radio related info there.

Jeff

Look at file://ftp.crl.com/users/ro/jeffj/www/home.html for information on

the New Party, list of worker owned businesses, other progressive causes and DX QSL information. jeffj@crl.com AB6MB KPFA 94.1 Bay Area Progressive Radio!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 21:33:38 1995
From: CQC@aol.com
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 19:31:58 -0500
Message-Id: <950215190434_22595803@aol.com>
Subject: CQC Winter QSO Party

Just a reminder of the upcoming CQC QSO Party this coming Sunday, Feb. 19, from 1800-2359 UTC.

Exchange: RS(T), State/Province/Country, Name, CQC # or power output. Max. power output is 5 watts. No WARC bands. CW and SSB OK.

I am suggesting SSB on the half hour for those working both modes.

Note: The name is a multiplier and must be your usual name used. Don't use Zeke or Xavier unless it is in the callbook or normally used by you.

For rules: CQC@aol.com
For forms: Send s.a.s.e to Jim Pope, KG0PP, Box 31575, Aurora, CO 80041-0575.

Logs must be postmarked by March 19, 1995. Please submit all logs, especially those with 6 or more contacts. Nice awards for the winners.

I hope to work you this Sunday.
72,
Rich WOHEP #1
Colorado QRP Club

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 21:29:27 1995
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950215170928.352@rcadmin.nov.add.bn1.gov>
From: "Nick Franco - KF2PH" <NICKF@rcadmin.nov.add.bn1.gov>
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 17:09:28 EDT
Subject: HW-8 MODS

I finally got up the nerve to tackle the mods to the HW-8 as written up in the NE-QRP 72 Newsletter a year or so ago. These consisted of re-winding cores for 80 and 40 meters, leaving 20 alone and taking 4 turns off the transmit toroids for 15 meters. The final mod was to replace the final amplifier with ECG488 transistor. These mods were to yield 5W? out as opposed to the ~2W currently out.

Problem: After winding the cores (which fixed my low power on 40M

problem) I added the NTE488 (replacement) final and had slightly less power out than I had with the original final. What's the story????? I looked up the 488 and see low gain which I think means it will need more current to drive. Is there an additional mod I can make to get this thing up to 5W out or what. I'm very green at this electrical stuff but willing to learn and try. I was thinking of buying a 2n3924 for the final instead of the NTE488 - Just from the looks in the book, I think it's a better match. Mean while I really don't need the QRM from the XYL for buying components I can't (or don't how to) use.

Any help is greatly appreciated. BTW - I re-aligned the transmit section after trying each final so I don't think it's an alignment problem..

73/72
Nick/KF2PH

Nick Franco - RHIC Computer/Network Support
tel:(516)282-5467 fax:(516)282-3674
kf2ph@bnl.gov or nickf@bnl.gov

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 23:11:55 1995
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 14:25:58 -0500 (EST)
From: CEBIK@utkvx.utk.edu
Subject: Just some ideas
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502151452.A541655886-0100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

Exchanged some ideas with Jedd Gold, and he thought I should post them, so here they are, for better or worse. Perhaps this will suffice as a fledgling draft of a formal proposal to QRP ARCI Board when they meet in April.

>
> Suggest the following, based on the fact that QRP ARCI will have its
> Board meeting in Dayton: why not prepare a formal proposal to 1. make
> this net (qrp-l@netcom.com) an activity at least co-sponsored by 'ARCI,
> with an appointed (volunteer) coordinator (maintain liaison with N1IST,
> etc.), 2. make all subscribers nonpaying and unnumbered adjunct members
> of 'ARCI, thus allowing periodic "information" bulletins on how to join
> 'ARCI to get a # and receive QQ, 3. start an internet column in QQ,
> either written by the coordinator or by another volunteer (reverse
> information flow to those not (yet) on the net), 4. any other feature
> you can think of that would enhance a. QRP in general, b. 'ARCI and its
> awards and operating functions, and c. interests of the net members.
> That way, when something else calling for group action comes along, it
> can be sponsored by 'arci--net branch or something similar. Just some
> ideas to think about--I'm not wedded to any particulars ones of them.
>

> -73-
> LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 23:14:34 1995
Message-Id: <199502160020.AA20075@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 17:20:24 -0700
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: MFJ/QRP Rigs - Read Me 1st

Following this notice, I will be posting several files regarding some detailed lab tests performed on the MFJ QRP rigs. Since I have received some email inquiring as to what type of final transistor, etc. the MFJ uses, it has occurred to me this information can be of much wider interest than just MFJ owners, since the circuit is similar to many of the QRP transceivers (NE602's, MRF-476, etc.). Many of the power levels and stage gains should be representative of many of the kits and homebrew rigs.

The subject line of the files will be:

1. MFJ/QRP Rig Block Diagram
2. MFJ/QRP Rig Lab Measurements
3. MFJ/QRP Adjustment Notes

The Block Diagram is a rough ASCII circuit, but for the non-MFJ users will identify the circuit components where measurements took place for comparison to your own rig. The adjustment notes are just some thoughts on the response and effects of the adjustments, some overall opinions, a few MFJ schematic errors noted, etc.

For those concerned about bandwidth, my apologies. From the email received in the past week, it just appears a large interest in how some of our rigs work. I hope you find the info useful.

72/73 de Paul NA5N

----NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY ----- Socorro, New Mexico -----
| VLA - Very Large Array Observatory - Worlds largest radio telescope |
| VLBA - Very Long Baseline Array - even larger |
----- (pharden@zia.aoc.nrao.edu) --- (73 de NA5N) -----

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 16:04:16 1995
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 12:52:36 -0700 (MST)
From: Blair Heinzlmeir <blair@tibalt.supernet.ab.ca>
Subject: NN1G 20 Mods ?
Message-Id: <Pine.HPP.3.91.950215124714.8730A-100000@tibalt.supernet.ab.ca>

All;

Hello I'm new to the internet. I have been a ham for 10 years and I'm 30 years old. I love to build amateur radio gear mainly qrp. I'm hoping by joining the internet will aid me in this pursuit.

I read in a recent ham magazine about a few mods that are out for the NN1G 20m transciever (QRP Quartly jan 1993) Like a rit mod. Can anybody help me out in find this and maybe other mods for this radio?

For my next project I would like to tackel a SSB radio. Can anybody steer me in a good projects direction?

Is there someplace on the internet that i can download pc layouts for differant ham radio projects?

Thank-you
73's
Blair Heinzlmeir
VE6BJH

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 15:07:36 1995
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 09:22:29 -0800 (PST)
From: John Dundas <ab6dg@netcom.com>
Subject: Pomona, CA Swap 2/18
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502150945.A3354-01000000@netcom8>

The California Microwave Relay Assn. (formerly of the Rio Hondo swapmeet) has announced it is putting on a ham swap this Saturday, Feb. 18, from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., at DeVry Institute of Technology, 901 Corporate Center Drive, Pomona, CA.

DeVry is located at the southeast "corner" of the intersection of the San Bernardino freeway (I-10) and the Orange freeway (57).

Directions given are--"from the I-10 (either direction) exit southbound Fairplex Drive (toward McDonald's). Make a right turn to westbound Murchison Avenue. At the end of Murchison, make a left turn onto Ridgeway St. Turn right on Campus Drive, then right on Corporate Drive."

Lacking knowledge of local eateries, I suggest interested qrp'ers gather at 10 a.m. at the "refreshment stand" (surely there will be one!) at the swap, and we can go from there.

The talk-in freq. for the swap itself is 146.175+.

Last month, at the TRW swap, the qrp group used 147.555 simplex

as a meeting freq., and that seemed to work, so let's try that again.

"Show and tell" qrp items are welcomed! Paul, N6HCS, has offered to make a list of possible attendees, so drop him a note--"carreiro@netcom.com"

72/3 de John AB6DG

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 21:45:00 1995
Message-Id: <9502151553.AA10378@garnet.inel.gov>
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 08:55:10 -0700
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: QRP Plus & All That Stuff

Well, I for one am getting tired of my e-mail "in-basket" being filled with messages about whether or not a "group purchase" is good for Index Labs, Ham Radio and the World Economy! I agree with the remark made by someone that the owner of Index is a "Big Boy" and can decide for himself what is or is not good for his business. I also wonder how much of the "anti-group purchase" QRM is due to sour grapes from those who paid full price for the rig?!? I, being like most hams (particularly old timers) am on the "cheap" side and probably would not have decided to buy the QRP Plus at its normal price -- even tho I would probably have regretted it later!

So -- how about getting back to more technical and/or operating oriented topics of discussion? For example, how to boost/improve/etc. ARCI seems like a good thread to continue with...

"Any opinions expressed herein are my own and probably do
not agree with those of my employer, the U.S. Government
or my spouse"

--... ..--

Larry V. East (W1HUE)

Idaho Falls, ID

e-mail: LVE1@inel.gov

Packet: W1HUE@WT7B.ID.UA.NOAM

work: (208) 533-4005 home: (208) 529-2162

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 05:45:57 1995
Date: Tue, 14 Feb 1995 22:36:47 -0500 (EST)
From: Steve Slavsky <sslavsky@CapAccess.org>
Subject: Re: QRP+
Message-Id: <Pine.3.07.9502142240.A12368-a100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

On Tue, 14 Feb 1995, Randy Pelt wrote:

> I've been watching all this talk of group purchases for the QRP+.
> Personally, if I'm going to spend \$500+ on a commercial rig, I can think of
> several others I would prefer to have.

While I am very interested in the QRP+, I always have an open mind for alternatives. I am unaware of any other 160-10, 9 band, QRP, small SSB-CW, battery capable rigs out there - period, let alone in the \$500 price range - new. My SB 102 is nearing the end of its useful life and all the other rigs that can come close to matching its performance are easily over \$1000 (w/power supply). I want to go back to QRP, but spending \$200 or more on a single or dual band CW only rig does not sound great in comparison. Please let me know (and the group) what else is out there - I haven't seen anything posted yet.

Steve Slavsky, N4EUK, Reston, VA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 19:20:14 1995
Subject: Re: QRP+ purchase from th
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Message-Id: <2a6.10956.500@acenet.com>
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 16:55:00 -0500

>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

TO the many who replied about the group purchase.
Sorry if I offended anyone, but the guy did offer an unspecified
"deeper discount" for a group of twenty or more.

That was without anyone pressing him on it.
I think some helpful and appropriate thoughts were offered here,
but let's not all over-react, OK?!

TJB> Not trying to start a flame war. Just had to express my opinion.

TJB>I am the happy owner of a QRP+, paid full price and think I got a good
TJB>deal.

Those seem to be the only ones who are upset that others might get a discount and that it might put Index out of business!
Likewise, I see the issues, I see the balance. I can't afford one anyway, so it's all theory for me.

Thanks for your thoughts everyone, and 72.5 de AF4K

~ SLMR 2.1a ~ You ARE what you think about all day long!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 19:33:55 1995
Subject: Re: QRP+ purchase from th
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Message-Id: <2a6.10952.500@acenet.com>
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 16:55:00 -0500

>From: brian.carling@acenet.com

Bob, V01DRB (:bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca) writes:

BGV>Hi Brian - curious if you know the dealers name and was it a model he was
BGV>trying to "dump" from his inventory. I'd be curious what the street
BGV>price is through the dealers - didn't know he had dealers, but I guess
BGV>so. Anyway thanks for your info.

BGV>> They had
BGV>> a dealer selling these for \$525.00 (I think) at the Gaithersburg Hamfest
BGV>> in September.

Sorry Bob, I lost his brochure unfortunately, but I must say that I was
MOST impressed with the unit. Now if I HAD \$5-600 to spare....!

~ SLMR 2.1a ~ You ARE what you think about all day long!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 21:12:06 1995
Message-Id: <n1419250781.64062@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Date: 15 Feb 1995 18:08:02 -0600
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Stick on Printed Circuit materials

A post from Ted Albert about 79 nite, and Dremel tool routing out Printed Circuits in place of risks of etching; (Dust for vapor), made me remember some materials that were available for making board prototypes.

Has anyone used what I think was called Cirkit Stik products? They were copper pads on plastic film with adhesive, and you stuck them down in your

desired pattern, and connected them with self adhesive copper tape. Soldering across the joints would provide adequate conductivity, and my question is if some have used them, are they still available widely, and how durable were they in your experience?

Might be adequate for simple circuits, and safer still.
72, Stuart K5KVH

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Feb 15 23:25:20 1995
Message-Id: <n1419252043.87705@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Date: 15 Feb 1995 17:46:55 -0600
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: The BNC vs. UHF connector (long)

David down in VK land commented that BNC's of the crimp type that are used for Ether thin net connections are easy to install, and the cable scraps from Ethernet make fine jumpers, as they are high quality 50 ohm 1/4 inch cable if of the thin type.

Mike has made his fine points on the superiority of BNC for QRP applications.

It seems the manufacturers have been the blind leading the blind when they use the ancient UHF type connector.

Just to refresh my facts I consulted the Amp catalog of coaxial connectors to verify this:

Type UHF, one of the earliest coax connectors, is a bit of a misnamed device, as it is not constant impedance, and may not be very good even up to its limit of 500 M Hz. It introduces mismatches along the coax line. Its working voltage is 500 for commercial service, and its dielectric withstanding voltage, (for the Amp insulation), is 1500 volts. This is also true for Amphenol and others of good quality.

Guess what? Type BNC is constant impedance even in crimped versions, (or maybe better, depending on your assembly skills with the old solder ones), it is good to up to 4 G Hz, and the working voltage is also 500, and dielectric withstanding voltage is also 1500 volts!

Now, tell me what is becoming the most seen coax connector? Type TNC! It is used on all cellular phones, and is similar to the BNC, but screws on and is mechanically better for mobile environments. It is good up to 11 G Hz, and also has 500 working volts rating, and 1500 volts dielectric withstanding rating. As their usage goes up, the prices will come down, and surplus has become available.

Now, like Mike, I think the BNC are fine, and get them as castoffs from industrial equipment or military surplus at little or no cost. In theory a

matched kilowatt rig could run on the BNC with the ICAS ratings, ie non constant duty, (not long winded). For those that are leery of that try the SHV. It is sized close to BNC, but is rated at 5000 volts working DC and AC dielectric withstanding voltage, and is bayonet like the BNC.

Why do the manufacturers follow like sheep with the UHF on QRO or QRP rigs? BNC is standard for much commercial AF and RF instrumentation, and with coax networks so common, is readily available at Radio Shack (Tandy overseas) even in a solderless version.

As to tooling for the crimp BNC's; yes, I bought a nice and not so expensive set for work that does all cable and connector sizes. But basically, for ham use you need 50 ohm in the North American shacks, and perhaps 75 ohm dies in the Commonwealth, but perhaps with Ethernet, 50 ohms is common world wide now. I also have a tool to strip both the center lead and the insulation around the shield, but if in a hurry, or in the field, I grab a hobby (Xacto) knife, put a new or good blade on it, and lay the cable on the connector to size my cutting points, and go round the insulation with the knife blade first for the outer insulation, and then cut back the shield with a pair of nippers (cutting pliers) and then cut the insulation off the center with the hobby knife and I am done. First of all, don't forget to put the crimp sleeve on the uncut cable, its hard after the cut! Shove the cable into the back of the plug after crimping the center pin, and crimp the outer sleeve and you are done.

Thinking we have to use the UHF connector is one of those urban myths that leads hams to frustration as they try to solder the shield braid (outer) through those tiny holes of the shell! I wonder how many have stopped experimenting with antennas because of a case of UHF Frustration? How can we bring manufacturers of rigs into the modern technologies of the superior miniature connectors? What would The Old Man, (Hiram Percy Maxim), be saying about the tyranny of UHF connectors?

BNC- ing you,
Stuart K5KVH